

IN THE CLAIMS

15. (Currently Amended) A certificate comprising:

an IC chip attached to ~~electronic tag attached on or~~  
~~put in~~ the certificate and storing a first information; and

~~wherein a~~ second information and a digital signature  
~~are printed on the a~~ surface of the certificate, + and

wherein the digital signature is generated from the  
first information and the second information.

16. (Currently Amended) The certificate according to  
claim 15, +

wherein the digital signature is generated using RSA  
from ~~a linkage or a hashed linkage of~~ the first information  
and the second information ~~using RSA~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The certificate according to  
claim 15, +

wherein the digital signature is a ~~sum or a hashed~~  
sum of the first information and the second information using  
RSA.

18. (Previously Presented) The certificate according to claim 15,<sup>+</sup>

wherein the first information is represented by  $x_1$ , the second information is represented by  $x_2$  and the digital signature is represented by  $y$ , secret keys are represented by  $d$  and  $n$ , and the digital signature is obtained by the equation

$$y = (x_1 + x_2) **d \bmod n$$
, where the function "+" represents linking of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  to each other.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for issuing a certificate comprising:

a certificate paper-accommodating part which accommodates certificates comprising ~~electric~~ an attached IC chip ~~tags~~ which stores first information; and

a printing part which prints ~~a~~ second information and a digital signature on ~~the~~ a surface of the certificates,<sup>+</sup> and

wherein the digital signature is generated from the first information and the second information.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, ~~+~~

wherein the digital signature is generated using RSA from ~~a linkage or a hashed linkage of~~ the first information and the second information using RSA.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, ~~+~~

wherein the digital signature is a ~~sum or a hashed~~ sum of the first information and the second information using RSA.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 19, ~~+~~

wherein the first information is represented by  $x_1$ , the second information is represented by  $x_2$  and the digital signature is represented by  $y$ , secret keys are represented by  $d$  and  $n$ , and the digital signature is obtained by the equation

$$y = (x_1 + x_2) **d \bmod n$$
, where the function "+" represents linking of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  to each other.